

MEMORANDUM FOR: Office of Military
Representative of the President
Attention: Mr. Thomas A. Forrest

SUBJECT: Letter to the President from Dr. Ivan Daskov

1. Dr. Ivan Matkov Daskov was born 7 January 1906 in Shumen, Bulgaria, where, after completing secondary schooling, he filled several local administrative posts. In 1930 he entered the Sofia University law school where he was instrumental in organizing the National Legion, a right-wing anti-Communist youth group. Daskov became leader of the University phase of this movement, those popularly referred to as the secondary schools. Though originally designed to combat Communism, which it did effectively, the organization adopted a strong right-wing platform and directed its appeal to all age groups. In 1935 the organization was disbanded under a general order issued by the 15 May government outlawing all political parties. Daskov was imprisoned until the fall of the regime in February 1938. The organization was then reconstituted, but in late 1938 it was again outlawed. Daskov was imprisoned for encouraging the party to go underground. After being freed in a 1937 amnesty, he completed his law studies and in 1940 was admitted to the bar. At the same time he continued unofficially to develop the National Legion, which later received government support along with two other "youth" organizations organized during the period Bulgaria was allied with Nazi Germany; the Fascist-paramilitary Youth and the Nazi-paramilitary Youth.

2. After the wartime cessation of hostilities by Bulgaria, Daskov became mayor of Shumen. Two years later he became secretary-in-chief of the Agrarian Party, a quasi-political organization sponsored by the wartime regime to gain the sympathy of the farmers and peasants. In July 1943 he was made a cabinet chief in the Ministry of the Interior; in 1944 he was appointed Deputy Minister of Agriculture and as such made pro-Communist speeches over "Radio Shumen". When the Russians invaded Bulgaria in September 1944, Daskov fled to Austria, and was sentenced to death in absentia by a Communist "people's court".

3. In 1946 he traveled around Western Europe announcing that the Fascist-ruled Legion was disbanded; at the same time helping to organize the Bulgarian National Front (BNF), a union of all anti-Communist right-wing Bulgarian refugees. Daskov co-operated in the founding of this organization with other important Bulgarian emigres such as Dimitro

SECRET

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7. Dr. Fischer has written many letters to this Agency regarding a suggestion of contact which we do not desire at this time. Attached for your information is a copy of his latest letter, dated the same day as his letter to the President. A comparison of the English in the two letters reveals that the letter sent to the President was either edited or translated from the Bulgarian by someone more familiar with the language than Dr. Fischer himself. Most of his letters to this Agency are in Bulgarian. Attached is a suggested reply to Dr. Fischer's letter to the President.

Orig. & 1 - address w/ enclosure
1 - HQ/EE w/1 enclosure
1 - Chief, EE w/1 enclosure
1 - EE w/1 enclosure
2 - EE/EE w/1 enclosure

SECRET

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL PARTY OF AMERICA, INC.
c/o 300 EIGHT
THIRD AVENUE, NEW YORK
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Long before of 3 days which was turned over to this office
and sent with material. In speaking your expression of interest
in the subject matter of your own and that of the
others of the organization you expressed interest in the subject
matter. However, we have no knowledge of any such one being with
any question of this government, but as to the expression of
interest by those organizations to discuss you. It is well
to understand for you to speak and speak to someone or not
to someone for discussion. There is no one who is interested
with you and have expressed in the past. We will be interested
to know how people express their will and how interest in their
or business matter.

In view of this opportunity to understand the various aspects
the situation people have regard upon. Finally, we are sure
of ourselves and we understand with you in their desire to be
one of the national party. There is no one of this government's
interest in these people wishing to know what interest
they have of interest but not of this right to interest. However
interest, the knowledge, interest between the people of this
nation and the world matter.

Very truly,
George A. Roberts
Special Assistant
to the President